

# MESSAGE

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
STAFF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

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FROM: USCINCEUR PARIS FRANCE  
TO : CJCS WASH DC  
INFO: USAMBASSADOR BONN GERMANY  
NR : EC 9-5302

DECLASSIFIED BY:  
JCS DECLASSIFICATION BRANCH  
DATE 138 APR 1972

061402Z OCT 59

USAMBASSADOR BONN FOR USCINCEUR LIAISON OFFICER.

This message forwards below a LIVE OAK letter,  
subject: "Designation of a Single Commander for Military  
Airlift Operations to Berlin" (S), signed by General Norstad,  
to the Chief of Staff of National Defense, France, United  
Kingdom Chiefs of Staff, and Chairman, United States Joint  
Chiefs of Staff.

General Norstad's letter is quoted as follows:

"Headquarters  
United States European Command  
Office of the Commander in Chief

Subject: Designation of a Single Commander for  
Military Airlift Operations to Berlin (S)

To: Chairman, United States Joint Chiefs of Staff  
Chief of Staff of National Defense, France  
United Kingdom Chiefs of Staff

1. The tripartitely agreed basic paper, "Berlin  
contingency planning", dated 4 April 1959, states in  
paragraph 12A that the three powers should take steps to  
maintain their unrestricted air access to Berlin; in  
paragraph 12B it assigns specific responsibility for re-  
viewing air contingency planning to the three Embassies at  
Bonn. In consultation with LIVE OAK.

2. The Commanders of the Air Forces of France,  
the United Kingdom and the United States in Germany, have

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MESSAGE

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
STAFF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

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prepared tripartite airlift contingency plans to meet four possible situations, which could occur separately or jointly, as a result of Soviet actions. These plans are:

- A. Tripartite Operation Plan, Civil Airlift, 24 July 1959.
- B. Tripartite Operation Plan, Garrison Airlift, 24 Nov 1958.
- C. Tripartite Operation Plan, Triple Play, 18 June 1959.
- D. Quadripartite Berlin Airlift Plan (QBAL), 9 April 1959.

3. A study of these plans indicates the need for a centralized authority to review and control the plans and to coordinate their implementation. This is particularly true for the more complex plans cited in paragraphs 2C and D, above.

4. I am in a good position to act as your agent in reviewing and coordinating these plans, initiating their implementation when directed by the three governments and maintaining operational control of their execution. If you agree with my being given this responsibility, I intend delegating to the Commander in Chief, United States Air Forces in Europe, the authority to coordinate planning for these military airlift operations and to exercise operational control over the airlifts if they are executed.

/S/ Lauris Norstad  
General USAF

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